

The National Honor Society

What is the National Honor Society?

The National Honor Society of Secondary School Principals is a nationwide organization and consists of many chapters in high schools. Selection is based on four dominant criteria: scholarship, leadership, service and character. Milton High School has been a member of the organization since 1921.

What does this look like?

- I. Students who meet the minimum grade (90%) and class requirements will be invited to apply to the Milton Chapter of the NHS.
 - a) You may review the application before deciding whether to apply.
- II. In the program, your objective is to work toward meeting the NHS requirements. Most of these requirements are non-negotiable. They include...
 - a) Being active in the organization each semester, and working towards a goal of bettering our community through the four pillars of the NHS.
 - b) Maintaining a minimum 90% GPA per quarter while in the program
 - c) Demonstrating leadership and unifying behaviors
 - d) Demonstrating good ethical and moral character
 - e) Accumulating 50 hours volunteer service over the course of four semesters;
 - School-centric service hours, which support the school's mission and improvement goals.
 - School-based club/activity hours which serve to bridge the school/community divide. (No double-dipping between points for school-based clubs.)
 - Community-centered service hours, which support the community.
- III. In early-January, you will be invited to fill out an NHS Application, which details your progress toward achieving the requirements of membership.
- ✓ Your induction application is scrutinized by Mrs. Flis to assure that it is complete and legible. The Faculty Council will evaluate applications and vote. A majority vote in support of your application is all which is needed.
- ✓ For those approved by the Faculty Council, there will be an induction ceremony in mid-to-late April.

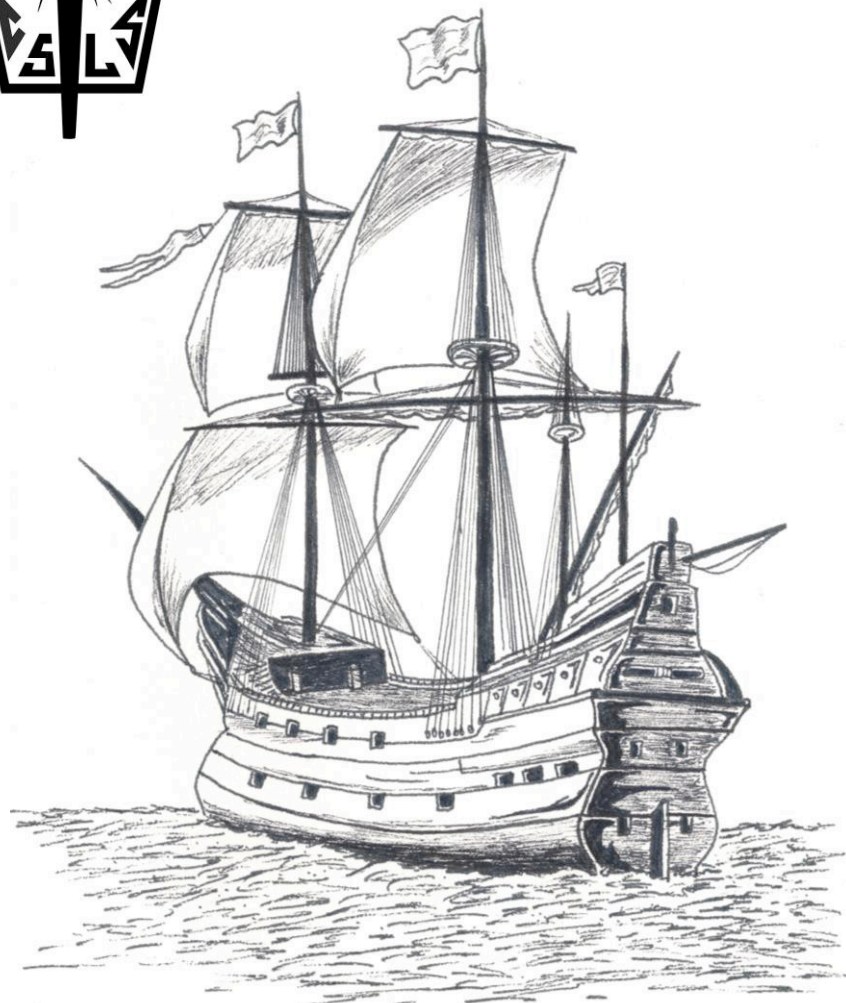
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The National Honor Society *At Milton High School*



Sociedad Nacional de Honor *De Milton High School*



NHS Motto: "Noblesse Oblige"

*"Whoever claims to be noble must conduct themselves nobly."
"One must act in a fashion that conforms with one's position,
and with the reputation that one has earned."*

Character – Scholarship – Leadership – Service

Revised: November 2017

What are the requirements to be invited to join the program?

Students are eligible to join if you meet a specific criterion. This minimum criterion is mandated by the NHS national organization. To get involved, applicants will...

- Be a sophomore or junior; freshmen are not eligible.
- Have a 90% unweighted gpa
- Be enrolled in at least five courses per quarter.
- Have completed at least a full semester at the high school prior to joining the program. (This mostly affects homeschoolers and exchange students).

What are the benefits of earning inclusion in NHS?

There are several reasons for why this group is worth embracing.

- It will enhance your work resume, college and scholarship applications.
- All senior members are eligible to be nominated for a competitive NHS Scholarship
- Seniors will receive a medallion to wear in the graduation ceremony.
- All inducted students will earn a certificate.
- This is a nationally renowned organization
- Only 50 hours are required for NHS. However, if you meet a certain higher minimum number of hours, you will also be eligible for the Presidential Service Award.

✓ Recognition – Bronze (100+ hours), Silver (175 hours), Gold (250 hours)

Please note: volunteer hours for the Presidential Service Award have to be completed by the start of spring break. We will recognize Gold Honor.



Under what circumstances might a student be dismissed from the program?

Members can be dropped from NHS if the student does not meet expectations in GPA, volunteer service hours, passing grades, appropriate conduct, or attend NHS meetings. Paying the annual due is a requirement for participation in the program.

When are meetings?

Meetings are required and will be scheduled as necessary (usually on the second or third Wednesday of each month). All meetings are held in the Auditorium of MHS. It is the student's responsibility to be kept informed of the happenings within the program.

What is the Faculty Council?

The Faculty Council is a group of five high school instructors who will evaluate a student's application for inclusion into the NHS. The Program Coordinator is a non-voting sixth member. Final selection of whom to induct into NHS is the responsibility of the Faculty Council. They also consider any appeals and must authorize any changes to the program. They meet once every May.

Does being an NHS member cost anything?

The dues for the year is all that is required of each member as far as financial contributions go. The \$20 dues are not refundable should you not meet the criteria for continued membership at any point in your career as NHS member.

How does one become an Officer in the NHS?

Anyone who is active in the NHS program is eligible to become officers in the Milton Chapter of the NHS. There will be a President, who will be supported by an Executive Committee of 3-5 officers (the specific number will reflect the number of students active in the program). Each spring there is a campaigning process where interested/eligible students write and present a speech at a monthly meeting. Then all members vote to decide which candidates should be placed in each of the officer positions for the following school year.

How many volunteer hours are needed?

To ensure continued membership in Milton's NHS, students will be required to document at least 50 hours of volunteer service from the following categories:

- (1) School-centric service hours
- (2) School-based club/activity hours which bridge the school/community divide
- (3) Community-centered service hours, which support the community.

Students may begin to accumulate Community-based service hours starting June of each year. They may amass them during the summer and/or during the school year. School-centric service hours must be amassed on campus during the school year.

Below is a clarification of each.

What type of experiences may be used to meet the Service Domain?

Volunteer service is a helpful act which contributes to the welfare of others.

1. School-centric service hours
 - *These are volunteer hours which support the school's mission statement and school improvement plan.* Examples may include...
 - Tutoring struggling students before school, after school, at lunch/study hall or outside of school hours.
 - Active involvement in the SHIP or ESOL tutoring programs
2. School-based club/activity hours which bridge the school/community divide
 - *This must be volunteer service in which the student represents the high school activity in a manner which is highly visible to the community. Team fundraisers may count provided it is a unifying community event (a run or parade, not a carwash or selling fireworks).* Examples may include but are not limited to...
 - Assisting with an American Red Cross Blood Drive
 - Participating in Relay-for-Life to raise money to combat cancer
 - Helping with sports team or club events which support community cohesion and promote the school due to their high visibility.
 - School-related events which fundraise for the Milton community.
3. Community-centered service hours which support the community
 - *This must strictly benefit some aspect of the community. In working in the community, the student is not overtly representing their school, club or activity.* Examples may include...
 - Volunteering with community-based shelters, assisted living homes, and/or other community-based organizations.
 - Cleanup of or planning improvement to the community cemetery, gardens, or official buildings.
 - Feeding the homeless.
 - Helping with Special Olympics
 - Some activities through Scouts and church or youth groups may fit in this domain, provided the community – not a congregation – is benefitted.

*Note: The following will NOT count toward service hours: (1) anything for which you are normally paid, (2) volunteering for a class or being a student aide, (3) working your job for free, (4) involvement in a school/community/church musical or play, (5) campaign efforts for a candidate for elected office, and other similar experiences. ALL volunteer experiences need to be authorized by the Program Coordinator. Some Senior Project activities may be considered, if appropriate.